

### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

A·2, 01/20/98

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590



REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Jon Peterson (SR-6J)

January 20, 1998

### VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Scott Sattler 29795 E. Erie Road Albion, MI 49224

Re: 29795 and 29789 East Erie Road

Dear Mr. Sattler:

I am writing to you in response to our conversation at the Public Availability Session that we held on September 24, 1997. You had expressed concerns about the proximity of your residence to the Superfund Site known as the Albion Sheridan Township Landfill Site. My response is based upon the facts presently known to the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and is provided solely for information purposes. The information below provides a brief explanation of the Superfund process and how it relates to the Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill.

In response to growing concern over health and environmental risks posed by hazardous waste sites, Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA") and established the Superfund program to clean up these sites. The Superfund program is implemented by EPA in cooperation with individual states and local and tribal governments. Sites are discovered by citizens, businesses, and local, state and federal agencies. After a potential hazardous waste site is reported to EPA, the site-specific information is recorded in the Superfund database, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System ("CERCLIS"). Sites are added to CERCLIS when EPA believes that there may be contamination that warrants action under Superfund.

EPA initially screens a potential hazardous waste site to determine what type of action, if any, is necessary. The Superfund program may then perform a preliminary assessment and site investigation to determine whether contamination at a property is likely to require a federal cleanup response, an evaluation to determine if a short term response action to eliminate or reduce contamination is needed (removal assessment), and add the site to EPA's list of high priority hazardous waste sites known as the National Priorities list ("NPL"). A removal

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assessment was conducted at the Site in 1989 and a removal action was completed in 1990 to remove drums from the surface of the landfill.

EPA has addressed the Site near the property referenced above in connection with the Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill under the authority of CERCLA. U.S. EPA conducted a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) from 1992 until 1994. U.S. EPA decided on a remedial action to be implemented at the site and executed a Record of Decision (ROD) in March of 1995, on which the state has given its concurrence. The ROD required the following remedial actions: 1) Removal of drums containing liquid wastes, 2) installation of a cap on the landfill, 3)monitoring of groundwater and implementation of groundwater treatment if arsenic levels continue to rise after installation of the cap.

The U.S. EPA issued an Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) on October 11, 1995 which ordered the Respondents to design and implement the remedial action that was selected in the March 1995 ROD. The Respondents completed the design for the remedy and it was approved by U.S. EPA on September 4, 1997. The Respondents have already begun implementation of the remedy at the Site.

The Respondents have completed the first remedial action listed in the above paragraph, which was the removal of drums containing liquid wastes. Installation of a cap over the landfill will begin in the Spring of 1998. Groundwater will continue to be monitored after installation of the cap and in five years, if the levels of arsenic have not declined, groundwater treatment will be performed.

On November 6, 1997, myself and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) geologist sampled the water from your well. On the same day we also sampled the water from the monitoring wells labeled MW09SB and MW16SB on the attached figure. These monitoring wells are located on the "downgradient" side of the landfill. In other words, groundwater flowing from beneath the landfill and picking up contaminants from the landfill would be expected to flow towards these wells. The second figure which is attached shows why this statement is true. This figure depicts the elevation of the groundwater in the shallow bedrock. By drawing lines perpendicular to the lines of equal elevation with arrows pointing from the high elevation to the lower elevation, you can see how the groundwater flows in the area. These arrows point towards the two monitoring wells mentioned earlier.

The sampling results from the two monitoring wells and your well are attached. These show that for the primary contaminant of concern, arsenic, the level in your well was below 1 microgram per liter (µg/l) which is to say one part per billion. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for

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arsenic in drinking water is  $50 \mu g/l$ . The sampling results for the two monitoring wells were also well below the MCL for arsenic and are comparable to what has been recorded in those wells since they were installed.

The ROD for the Site requires that the groundwater be monitored following installation of the cap. If the results of monitoring indicate that the level of arsenic is rising, the PRPs will be required to institute groundwater treatment. Consequently, it should be clear that although your property is located near a Superfund Site, it is a Superfund Site at which the U.S. EPA will oversee the completion of cleanup at this Superfund Site and will be monitoring the groundwater around this Site in the future and the adjacent residents should not expect to suffer any adverse exposure to contaminants.

If your have any further questions, please feel free to call me at (312) 353-1264.

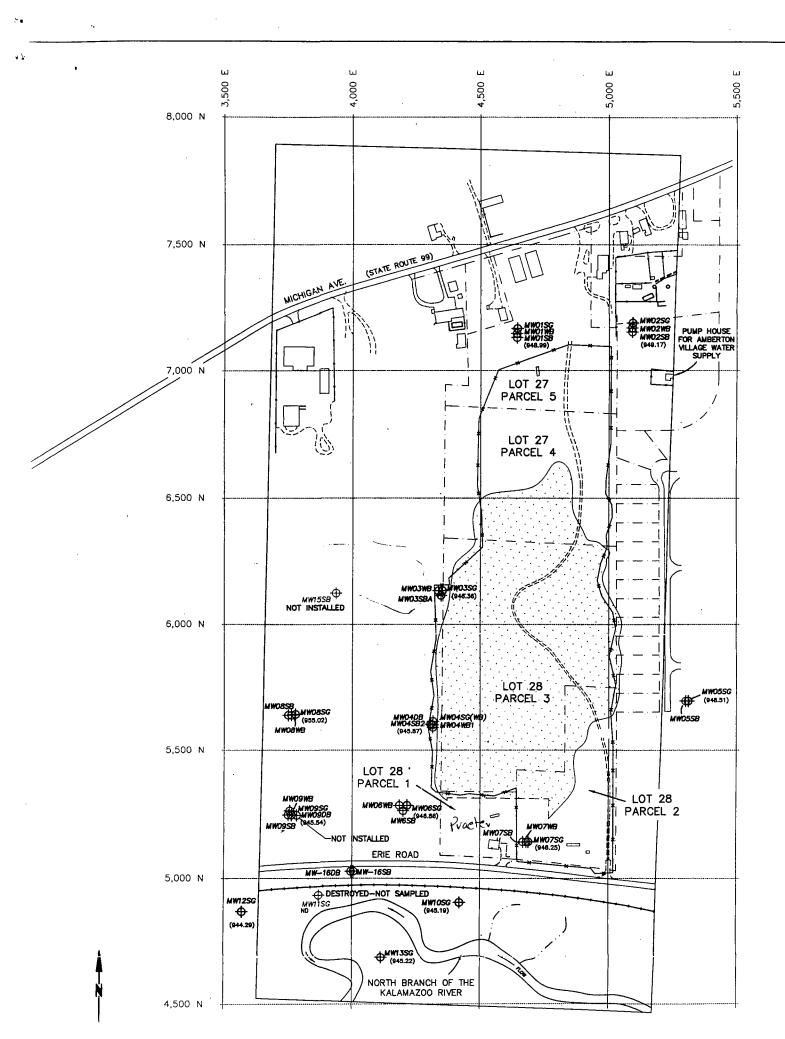
Sincerely yours,

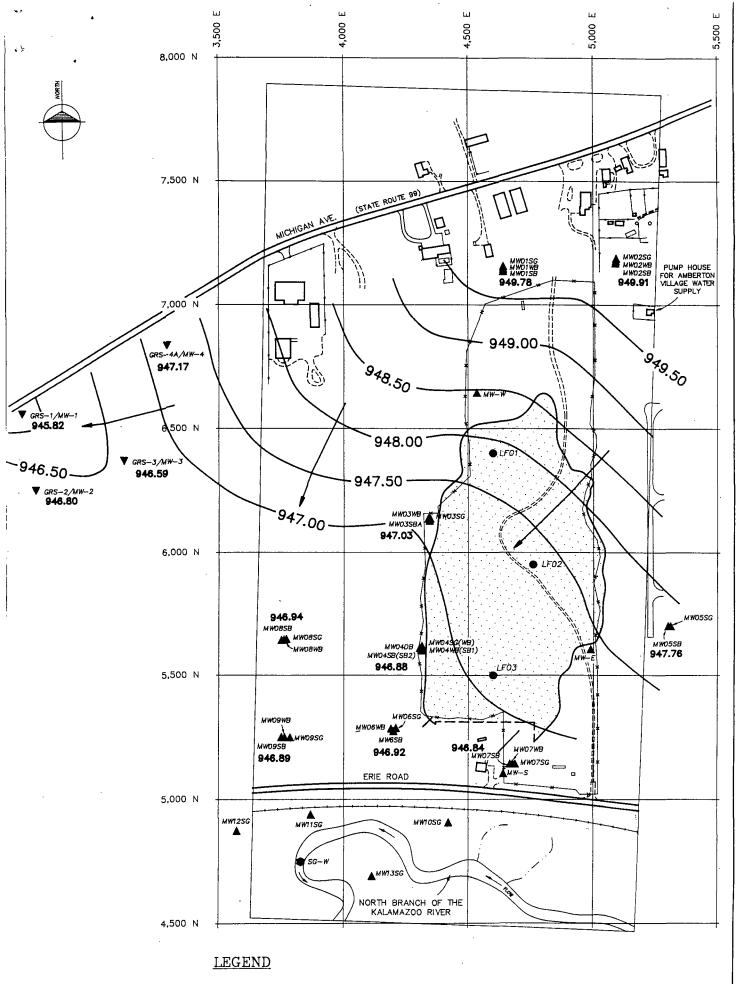
Jon Peterson

Remedial Project Manager

Jon a Peterson

cc: Marna Cake - Michigan Dept. Of Community Health, Drinking Water Division





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9:53 No. UU2 P. U2

## MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY

REPORT Environmental Response Div. 10 Mason Building

WORK ID ALBION SHERIDAN

Lansing, MJ 48909

ATTEN MARGIE FRISCH

LABORATORY WORK ORDER # 97-11-029

P.O. # COST \$ 681

RECEIVED 11/06/97 CLIENT ER SUPER COST \$ 681.60

NUMBER OF SAMPLES 4 REPORTED

LAB CONTACT IN \_\_ MATRIX <u>WATER</u>

TEST	MN 16 SB	MM 09 SB	MAI 09SB DUP	SATTLER
UNITS	<del></del>			
Silver by Furnace - Diss. ug/l (Diss)	K 0.5	K 0.5	K 0.5	K 0,5
rsenic by Furnace - Diss.  ug/i (Diss)	3.7	5,0	1.4	K 1.0
Barium – Dissolved ug/l (Diss)	240	316	318	65
Cadmium by Furnace – Diss. ug/l (Diss)	K 0.2	K 0.2	K 0.2	K 0.2
Chromiun by Furnace - Diss ug/1 (Diss)	K 1.0	K 1.0	K 1.0	K 1.0
Copper by Furnace - Diss. ug/1 (Diss)	K 1.0	K 1.0	′ K 1,0	K 1.0
<b>lercury - Dissolved</b> ug/1 (Diss)	K.2 HT	К .2 НТ	K _2 HT	K .2 IIT
Lead by Furnace - Diss. ug/1 (Diss)	K 1.0	K 1.0	K 1.0	K 1.0
Selenium – Dissolved ug/l (Diss)	K J.0	K 1.0	K 1.0	K 1.0
inc - Dissolved ug/1 (Diss)	K 4.0	5.0	K 4.0	12

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY PROCEDURE

NO: PD-13 DATE: Rev. 10/9/95

# Subject: Laboratory Result Remark Codes

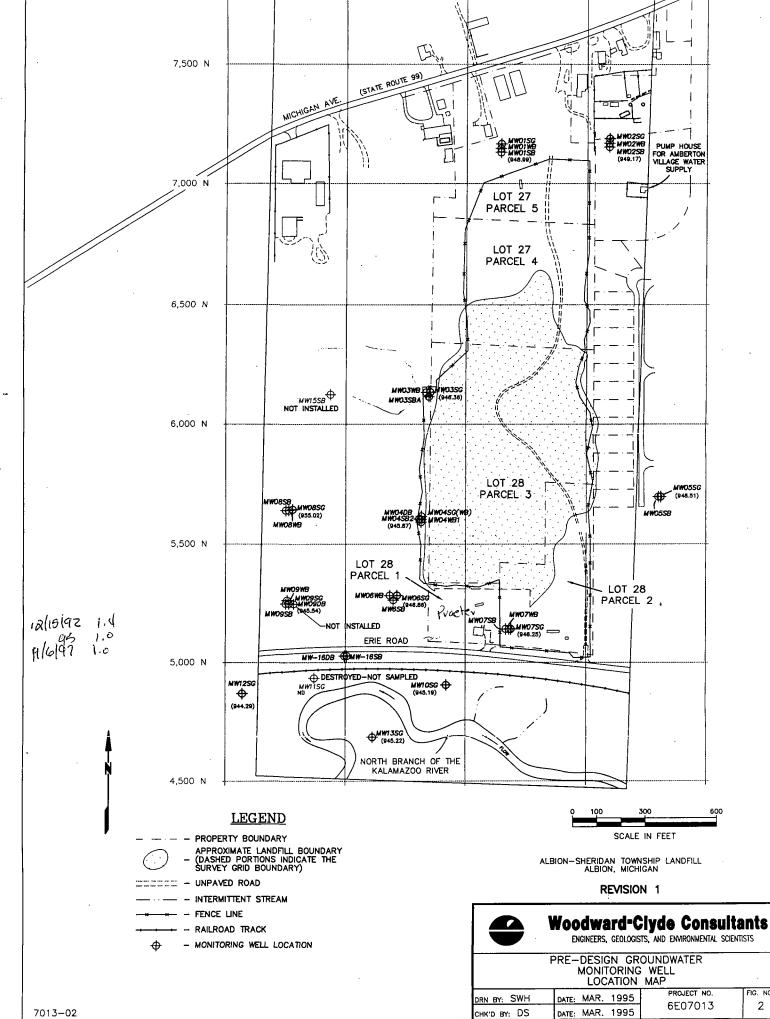
- A value reported is the mean of two or more determinations.
- C value calculated from other independent parameters.
- J estimated value or value not accurate.
- K actual value is known to be less than the value given, i.e. substance, if present, is below detection limit.
- L actual value is known to be greater than the value given.
- T value reported is less than criteria of detection.
- W value observed is less than lowest value reportable under "T" code.
- DL sample analyzed using a dilution(s).
- DM dilution required due to matrix problems.
- HT recommended laboratory holding time was exceeded before analysis.
- LH Q. C. indicated possible low recovery. Actual level may be higher.
- LL Q. C. indicated possible high recovery. Actual level may be lower.
- MM analytical method or matrix is not within SOP of this laboratory.
- NC no confirmation by a second technique.
- NH non-homogeneous sample made analysis of a representative sample questionable.
- Pl possible interference may have affected the accuracy of the laboratory result.
- QC quality control problems exists.
- RB Reagent Blank. The level of reagent blank contamination is reported in the comment column and may be subtracted from the analyte value by the user.
- ST recommended sample collection/preservation technique not used.
- ACC laboratory accident resulted in no obtainable value.
- FCN free cyanide was not analyzed due to low level of total cyanide.
- INT interference encountered during analysis resulted in no obtainable value.
- IST Improper sample collection/preservation. Sample not suitable for analysis.
- NAV requested analysis not available.
- QNS quantity not sufficient to perform requested analysis.
- STR settleable residue was not analyzed due to low suspended solids.

Approved by:

orge Su, Lab Section Chief

10/17/93 Date

bha:File R:\Worddocs\



7013-02